

THE DESTROYING ANGEL.

A Few of the Calamities
1872, Deceased.

CI O THE WHEEL OF PROGRESS.

rd of the Ravages of Fire,
Water and Ether Red.

TB DEAD BY ACCIDENT.

Property Destroyed in the Metropolis

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

A Shocking Picture of Human Suffering
and Inhuman Neglect.

RAILROAD SLAUGHTERS OF THE YEAR.

Melancholy Statistics for Lawmak-
ers and Philanthropists.Butchered and Accidents Ascribed
to Providence.

THE ENGLISH RECORD.

Explosions, Collisions, Deaths by Drowning,
Street Car Accidents, Ordinary and Extra-
ordinary Mishaps at Home and Abroad.The year 1872, which has just gone out, will long
be remembered as one of the most remarkable for
the numerous and heavy disasters that have been
caused by the elements. Fire and water were ac-
tive in the work of destruction; doleful shipwrecks
at sea and vast conflagrations on land, attended
with heavy loss of life, were of frequent oc-
currence, and even convulsions of nature were not
wanting to swell the catalogue of calamities. The
great fire in Boston perhaps stands forth as the
heaviest destruction of property, and there have to
be added the burning of the Escurial in Spain; the
narrow escape of the city of Marseilles through the
shell and daring of the sailors of the American
fleet; the National Palace, in the city of Mexico;
Warwick Castle and Canterbury Cathedral; but the
fire in this city during the past month, resulting
in the death of so many young women, are certainly
the saddest part of the story of the year. To give
a list of shipwrecks would occupy too large a space;
but there may be mentioned the Metis, the Ben-
vue and the Missouri, all of which were lost and a
greater portion of their crews and passen-
gers found watery graves. The Sacramento,
Guatemala, Nevada and St. Louis were also lost
during the past few months, but, fortunately, with-
out sacrifice of life. The Denmark—formerly the
Great Republic, burned in New York in 1869—
was also lost. The unexampled heat of July and
August brought forth its crop of deaths by sun-
stroke, and the equally unexampled severity of the
present winter has resulted in hundreds of marine
disasters that hardly find a parallel in years past.
Above there have been storms and floods. The
north of Europe has suffered from both; but in
Italy, France and India the latter have caused the
greatest damage.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION.

Below will be found a list of fires, railroad acci-
dents, explosions, &c., that have taken place during
1872 in the United States. It presents a shocking pic-
ture of the sufferings inflicted on thousands of peo-
ple and of the vast destruction of property. In
most of the instances there can hardly be a doubt
that ordinary prudence was observed they are aware
have taken place, and their number also
argue neglect in the enforcement of the laws
by those charged with the duty. Greed and reck-
lessness, likewise, have had much to do in en-
larging this melancholy statistics. But, in any case,
it is time our lawmakers should most seriously
turn their attention to providing for the better
protection of the life and property of our citizens.
Following the American catalogue is a statement
showing the principal fires and railroad accidents
that occurred in Great Britain in 1872. There is
nothing to compare with the loss of life that has
occurred at conflagrations in this country, where
in the city of New York alone thirty human beings
miserably perished in burning buildings during the
past year. There must be a better description of
law in England, or, at least, the laws are better
put in force; but, at all events, the loss of life at sea
and land, owing to criminal deficiency of boats and
apologies for fire escapes, should meet the atten-
tion of those entrusted by the people with their
protection. In these respects, without any further
delay.

Fires in the City in 1872.

The table appended, courteously furnished at the
office of Chief Engineer Perley, gives a summary of
fires that occurred in this city during the year. In
comparison with the total number of fires the num-
ber totally destroyed is very insignificant, but the
loss of property amounts to millions. The sacrifice
of life is by far the most painful feature in the table,
which will cause it to be considered with the most
attention. Thirty persons were either smothered
or burned, including two firemen. The principal
buildings destroyed during the year were Niblo's
Garden, Barnum's Museum, Grace Chapel, Lina
Edwin's Theatre, Fifth Avenue Hotel (seriously
damaged), printing establishment on Centre street
and Mallard's confectionery. The following is the
table:—

Month	No. of Fires	Value of Property Destroyed	No. of Persons Killed	No. of Persons Injured
January	177	\$327,400	11	111
February	125	96,668	22	107
March	141	107,741	14	107
April	165	617,305	1,175	100
May	149	474,178	1,887	80
June	168	61,814	10	107
July	167	241,220	22,520	100
August	161	133,250	10	107
September	94	19,149	48	100
October	90	24,111	39,993	275
November	100	306,730	100	100
December	173	61,201	492,000	3,100
Total	1,667	4,114,454	100	1,045,091

Casualties at New York Fires in 1872.

The following is a list of the principal casualties
reported by the New York Fire Department dur-
ing the year 1872:—

January 12.—Man in charge of oil refinery, 106th
street and First avenue, badly burned.
January 12.—Lizzie Callahan, 124 Charlton street,
fell upon stove in a fit and was badly burned.
January 13.—Johanna Roach, No. 4 Goerck street,
badly burned.

January 14.—Foreman John Castle, Engine No. 12,
fell from fourth to third floor and suffered se-
vere injuries.
January 22.—William Patton severely burned,
1,327 Broadway.

January 24.—Firemen Kelly and Campbell, En-
gine Company No. 20, fell from ladder and were
injured.

February 14.—Remains of a man found at Nos. 9
and 11 Baxter street, while overhauling rubbish.

February 22.—Joseph Mass fell thirty-five feet
from ladder and sent to hospital.

March 6.—Body of Moses Jackson, a boy, smothered
in hayloft, 421 West Thirtieth street.

March 17.—A citizen severely injured at 40 Mont-
gomery street by explosion of a kerosene lamp.

September 8.—During fire at foot of Sixty-sixth
street, Corlie Kline, Jacob Sullivan, a fireman,
Engine No. 23, and a boy, were fatally injured.

October 4.—A woman severely burned at 1,046
Second avenue.

October 9.—Remains of Nicholas Madison found in
ruins 151 West Thirty-second street.

November 9.—Remains of man supposed to be
Aaron Ady were found after fire at 257 West
Twenty-eighth street.

November 9.—Foreman McQuill fell from track
going to fire 473 First avenue and was severely in-
jured.

December 16.—Eleven girls burned to death at
Fifth Avenue Hotel.

December 16.—Mary Shaw burned to death at 149
Sixth avenue.

December 24.—At fire in Centre street six girls
and one boy burned in ruins.

The following is a list of the principal fires that
occurred in Brooklyn in 1872:—

January 21.—King's distillery, Division avenue,
Williamsburg. Loss \$15,000.

February 16.—Lorillard's tobacco factory, Bed-
ford street. Loss \$30,000.

February 25.—Lippman & Co.'s clothing establish-
ment, Williamsburg. Loss \$15,000.

January 29.—Cuba Sugar Refinery, Gold street. Loss
\$250,000.

November 18.—Wooden grain elevator, Atlantic
Docks; 100,000 bushels of grain destroyed.

November 22.—A large building, 1/2 malt house
partially destroyed. Loss \$80,000.

November 23.—Barber's stationary elevator, Pa-
cific street. Loss \$15,000.

December 22.—Tabernacle church. Loss \$100,000.

Fires in United States in 1872.

A large number of disastrous fires have occurred
throughout the country during the year. The ap-
pendix is nearly a complete list of the principal
conflagrations:—

JANUARY.

January 14.—Bulley's oilcloth factory, with ad-
joining mill, Whitman, Mass., destroyed. Loss
\$100,000. A watchman named Birdsell, after giving
alarm, entered the burning building and was killed.

January 18.—Young & Co.'s extensive works,
Cleveland, Ohio, destroyed. Loss \$75,000.

January 18.—City of four Mills, Auburn, Me., de-
stroyed.

January 19.—Iron works, Natick, Mass. Loss
\$5,000.

January 20.—Hotel at Hawes's Cave, on line of
Albany and Susquehanna Railroad, totally de-
stroyed. Two persons burned to death and one
fatally injured. Loss \$20,000.

January 22.—A large manufacturing Company's
buildings, St. Louis, Mo., destroyed. Loss \$150,000.

January 28.—Boys' House of Refuge, New Or-
leans.

January 28.—Ice boat Maryland, at Baltimore.
Robert Woolsey, engineer, burned to death. Loss
\$150,000.

February 2.—Needham's agricultural implement
warehouse, Jefferson, Texas, and a square of
buildings. J. L. Bloomington killed by falling of
building walls.

February 3.—Alarming fire in Hebron, N. J., in
heart of a block of entire frame buildings. Though
a high wind was blowing the flames were checked.

February 30.—House and barn of Zenas Cushman,
Plymouth, Mass., burned and he himself perished
in the flames.

February 31.—Trinity Episcopal church, Cov-
ington, Ky., was found on fire. A horse attached to a
team cart ran away and fatally injured John Rhein-
beiler.

FEBRUARY.

February 2.—House of Good Shepherd, Louis-
ville, Ky., considerably damaged. The children
saved.

February 2.—Engine works, Newcastle, Pa. Loss
\$75,000.

February 2.—Iron planing mills, Cincinnati. Loss
\$15,000.

February 4.—Aldrich & Co.'s woollen mill, Gran-
by, N. Y. Loss \$25,000.

February 7.—Smith & Covert's morecose factory,
Albany, N. Y. Loss \$10,000.

February 7.—Feldner & Arkin's hosiery mills,
Sand Lake, near Troy, N. Y. Loss \$10,000.

February 7.—National Hotel, telegraph office and
other buildings, Oil City, Pa. Loss \$50,000.

February 7.—Ten stores at Fort Harrison, Mich.
Loss \$60,000.

February 14.—Union passenger depot, Normal,
Ill. Loss \$25,000.

February 14.—Six stores in Chicago. Loss
\$30,000.

February 14.—Methodist Book Concern, Nash-
ville, Tenn. Loss \$20,000.

February 14.—Presbyterian church and five of
the best buildings, Sharnburg, Ky.

February 14.—Glass works, Rock Island, Ill.
Loss \$1,000.

February 16.—Benedict & Co.'s hat manufactory,
Bethel, Pa., one of the largest of the kind in the
United States. Four hundred persons thrown out
of employment.

February 16.—Waldo & Otto's steam force, cov-
ering a quarter of an acre of ground, Locust Point,
Me. Loss \$10,000.

February 20.—Machine shops and engine house,
Shakopee, Minn., belonging to St. Paul and Sioux
Railroad. Loss \$100,000.

February 20.—Hotel, Grand Rapids, Mich., the
largest in that part of the State. One man lost
his life. Loss \$25,000.

February 20.—Hotel, Cincinnati. Loss \$100,000.

February 20.—Green Hill Hotel, North Cohasset,
Mass.

February 20.—Crosby's steam sawmill, Charle-
ston, S. C., destroyed.

February 22.—Baptist church and a number of
valuable buildings, Selingsgrove, Pa. Loss
\$100,000.

February 22.—Serious cotton and knitting mill,
Kenwood, near Albany, N. Y. Loss \$50,000.

February 22.—Destructive fire, Arkadelphia, Ark.
Loss \$50,000.

February 22.—Donell's spoke factory, St. Mary's,
Ohio.

February 24.—Partial destruction of American
Iron Works, Pittsburg, Pa., the most extensive in
United States. Over 2,500 men thrown out of em-
ployment. Loss \$100,000.

February 24.—Belleville Mills, Cranston, R. I. One
man killed. Loss \$100,000.

February 24.—Broadway Building, New York. Loss
\$100,000.

March 3.—Squirehouse, a large boarding
school, Hartford, Conn. Loss \$5,000.

March 20.—Ohio Falls Car Works, Jeffersonville,
Ind. Employed 700 men. Had orders for 2,000
cars. Loss \$100,000.

March 20.—Simons' Ethiopian Opera House, Phila-
delphia. Loss \$50,000.

March 20.—Logan House, Altoona, Pa. Loss
\$50,000.

March 24.—Two blocks of buildings, including
Lumber Bank, telegraph offices and other build-
ings at Rockland, Me.

March 24.—Robson's saw mill, Biddeford, Me.
Loss \$50,000.

March 24.—Day's farm buildings, Comac, L. I.
Loss \$50,000.

March 24.—Farm buildings, near Theresa, N. Y.
The occupant, while attempting to save his
children's lives, perished in the flames.

March 24.—Robinson & Co.'s ash mills, Balti-
more. Loss \$20,000.

March 24.—Hayward's dye mills, Greenpoint,
N. Y. Loss \$30,000.

March 31.—City Laundry, Concord, N. H. Loss
\$100,000.

APRIL.

April 3.—Northern Central Railroad bridge at
Pittsburg, Pa.; half distance extending to span.
Loss \$50,000.

April 4.—Yeager's extensive flouring mill, St.
Louis, Mo., the largest in the city. Loss \$80,000.

April 4.—Barnes' saw mill, Ark. Mass., de-
stroyed. Not a grocer or dry goods store escaped.
Loss \$200,000.

April 14.—Incendiary fire, Orange, N. Y. Six
stores burned. Loss \$15,000.

April 14.—Elevator, with 50,000 bushels of grain,
at Warrenburg, Mo. Loss \$100,000.

April 14.—Church, near New York. Loss \$10,000.

April 14.—Ten houses, Pittsburg, Pa. Charles
Ewing was run over by a wagon and killed. Loss
\$15,000.

April 20.—A number of stores, Shawburg, Ia.

April 21.—Mount Vernon House, a well known
summer resort.

MAY.

May 5.—Standard Oil Works, Cleveland, Ohio.
Oil escaped and caused destruction of shipping
house and platform. Over 5,000 barrels burned.
Loss \$80,000.

May 5.—Squares in Somerset, Pa., in heart of
town and comprising one-third of its entire val-
ue. All churches and public buildings destroyed. Loss
\$1,000,000.

May 5.—Tully Hotel and a number of buildings in
Syracuse, N. Y. Loss \$40,000.

May 12.—Fahnestock's lead works. Loss \$500,000.

May 12.—Barnes' fires raging on South Moun-
tains, near Carlisle, Pa.

May 12.—Workshops attached to Atkins' iron
rolling mills, Portville, Pa. Loss \$15,000.

September 10.—Collision on New York Central
Railroad. Engine and cars burned.

May 28.—Shaw's block, one of the largest in Bid-
deford, Me. Loss \$50,000.

June 25.—Gall & Co.'s large dry goods establish-
ment, Milwaukee, Wis., struck by lightning and
destroyed. Loss \$100,000.

July 6.—New York Central Railroad depot, West
Albany, N. Y. Loss \$250,000.

July 7.—A large machine establishment,
Philadelphia. Loss \$40,000.

July 18.—Indiana State Prison; no convicts
escaped. Loss \$50,000.

July 20.—Planning mills, lumber piles and oil re-
finery destroyed. Loss \$100,000.

July 20.—Columbia & Co.'s boiler establishment,
Portland, Me.

July 20.—Walker's planing mill, Corning, N. Y.

July 20.—Fire on Passaic River, near New
ark, N. J. Loss \$20,000.

July 28.—Twelve cars containing oil burned at
Florida (N. Y.) Station of Erie Railroad. Loss
\$15,000.

AUGUST.

August 3.—Dean Academy, Franklin, Mass.; en-
tire chemical and philosophical apparatus destroyed.
Loss \$20,000.

August 3.—Pottery works, Trenton, N. J. Loss
\$50,000.

August 7.—Continental Sugar Refinery, South
Boston. Loss \$250,000.

August 8.—Stables and blacksmith shops, Cin-
cinnati. Loss \$10,000.

SEPTEMBER.

September 1.—Niagara Paper Mills, Middletown,
Ohio. Loss \$42,000.

September 4.—Reed House, Erie, Pa. Loss
\$20,000.

September 8.—Presbyterian church and twenty
buildings at Moshawka, Ind. Loss \$150,000.

September 8.—Collision on new bridge of
New Jersey Railroad, Newark. Loss \$120,000.

September 15.—Large block of tenement houses
in Manchester, N. H., caused by explosion of a kero-
sene lamp.

September 20.—Condit & Sons' paper mill, Sher-
burne, N. Y. Loss \$200,000.

September 20.—Ten buildings, Bridgeport, Conn.
Loss \$10,000.

OCTOBER.

October 4.—St. Louis (Mo.) rope and bagging
factory. Loss \$10,000.

October 9.—Eight stores, Plainfield, N. J. Loss
\$30,000.

October 10.—Extensive business buildings, Ran-
gely, Me. Loss \$10,000.

October 12.—Fall River (Mass.) Coal company's
works. Loss \$50,000.

October 13.—Rolling mills buildings, Cambria
Works, Pittsburg, Pa. Loss \$400,000.

October 16.—Cowper's rolling mills, Trenton, N.
J.; partially consumed. Loss \$70,000.

October 18.—Hoolmarth's handle works, San-
dusky, Ohio. Over one hundred men thrown out
of employment.

October 30.—Prairie fire near Omaha, Neb.
Soldiers at barracks called out to check spread
and save government property.

NOVEMBER.

November 9.—St. James Hotel, Cooperstown, N.
Y. Loss \$5,000.

November 9.—Great fire in Boston.

November 15.—Keystone Saw Works, Philadel-
phia; one of the largest of the kind in America.
Loss \$150,000.

November 15.—United States Court House, Post
office and other buildings at Fort Smith, Ark. Loss
\$100,000.

November 27.—Miller's carriage and agricultural
implement establishment, Mattoon, Ill. Loss
\$50,000.

DECEMBER.

December 2.—Connolly's furniture establish-
ment, St. Louis, Mo.

December 14.—Peterson's saw and planing mill,
Jamaica, L. I. Loss \$17,000.

December 15.—John Klein, killed by street
car, corner Sixth avenue and Twenty-eighth street.

December 16.—Isaiah Lawrence, a colored man,
run over and killed on Thompson street, by a car
of Seventh avenue line.

December 17.—Car shops, Adrian, Mich. Loss
\$75,000.

December 27.—A large number of business houses,
St. Louis, Mo. Loss \$30,000.

December 28.—Clark's marble buildings, Mem-
phis, Tenn.

December 28.—Burke's steam tannery, Spring-
ville, Pa. Loss \$25,000.

December 30.—Skowhegan Hotel and other build-
ings, Augusta, Me. Loss \$50,000.

STREET RAILROAD ACCIDENTS IN 1872.

January 9.—Henry Jane, milkman, killed, corner
Essex and Grand streets, by car of avenue C line.

January 9.—Christian Satchel, killed by street
car, corner Sixth avenue and Twenty-eighth street.